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Evolutionary Modifications in the 1981 Procedures for Interagency Production

The Community conforms to the 1981 guidance with the following exceptions:

- o The Production Plan is coordinated and produced on a semi-annual rather than quarterly basis; no Community problems with this. In the interim the NIOs have worked most closely with the requester and the DCI to modify production; we have not always sought Community consensus on proposals to add to or drop estimates from the plan.
- o The distinction in the Production Plan between Category A-B, I-II papers was dropped by the NIOs in late 1984 without Community dissent. The descriptors turned out not to be operationally useful.
- o We have added the IIA as a single-issue lower-profile version of the SNIE, in response to Community requests for a fast-track review of current events.
- o We seldom stay within the 5-10 page limit imposed on the length of fast-track SNIEs, and in instances we are not able to allow the full time for each step as specified for NIEs.
- o Most agency Representatives sit at draft coordination sessions at the table without full authority to represent their NFIB Principals.
- o NFIB Principals do not routinely release principal drafters from conflicting duties.
- o We have on occasion maneuvered after coordination to resolve major outstanding issues instead of submitting them to NFIB for resolution. We have increased our efforts to bring these to NFIB.
- o We submit the full text of the coordinated draft to DCI review and the scrutiny of NFIB Principals when in fact we are obligated to forward only Volume I - Key Judgments. (This one is fuzzy in that the procedures state " . . . There will be occasions where the length or complexity of an estimate will necessitate variations on this concept." Volume II is composed of backup analysis.)
- o NIOs seldom convene post-NFIB meetings for Representatives to discuss gaps in collection or analysis. (Warning meetings largely fulfill this function today.)

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